

HOUSE RESOLUTION 201
By Fowlkes

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of John Mack Ashten and Elizabeth Orr Ashten of Giles County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of John Mack Ashten and Elizabeth Orr Ashten; and

WHEREAS, the Ashtens were exemplary public servants and consummate professionals who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, on January 16, 1938, John Mack Ashten and Elizabeth Orr were joined in holy matrimony, and from that fateful day and into their final days, this outstanding couple faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Ashten were highly respected citizens of the Giles County community for many years; they were the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavored to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, John Mack Ashten served with acumen and alacrity as a blacksmith, mechanic, and farmer, earning the respect of community members for the exemplary quality of his work; he was the first man to raise tobacco in Giles County; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Orr Ashten, through her remarkable fidelity and extraordinary attentiveness, routinely transformed the family's house into a sanctuary of beauty, warmth, and hospitality, refreshing the spirits of all who entered into her home and into her life; and

WHEREAS, John and Elizabeth Ashten were deeply devoted to their family and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Ashten enjoyed the loving companionship of their five children; they were the proud parents of Estelle Ashten, who served for 41 years with the State of Tennessee, Martha Cells, who served for a number of years with the State of Tennessee, Durrell Cells, who also served for a number of years with the State of Tennessee, Lyndall Ashten, a Giles County farmer, and Jimmy Ashten, also a Giles County farmer; and

WHEREAS, John Mack Ashten and Elizabeth Orr Ashten leave behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of these exceptional public servants and human beings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of John Mack Ashten and Elizabeth Orr Ashten, reflecting fondly upon their impeccable character and their stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Ashten.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.